



West Chicago Cultural Arts Commission At-A-Glance



Mission/History

The arts are alive and well in West Chicago! The West Chicago Cultural Arts Commission (WCCAC) was established by the City of West Chicago in January 1993 with the mission of enriching the lives of all residents through the active support of cultural arts activities in the City. The Commission sponsors public art programs, workshops, art exhibits, community art projects, and other special events. It also supports the popular downtown art destination, Gallery 200, and maintains a thriving local artist network.

Functions of the WCCAC include [Sec. 2-439]:

- Recommend to City Council on the environment for flourishing cultural arts
- Foster education opportunities
- Promote opportunities to enhance the economic base
- Cooperate with City staff to administer Commission programs/activities
- Support/foster bonds between and among all arts organizations within the community; encourage new organizations
- Apply for grants to support Commission programs; administer “re-grants” under Illinois Arts Council, etc.
- Provide publicity and communication for all arts-related activities
- Act as resource/clearing house to community arts organizations in effective grant-writing, audience development, funding identification, legal/tax/insurance/liability related to programming

Specifications

The WCCAC currently meets on the **first Thursday of each month at 7pm** unless otherwise announced.

- Meetings take place at City Hall [Sec. 2-271]
- Meetings typically last 1 to 2 hours
- All City meetings must adhere to Illinois “Open Meetings Act” [Sec. 2-438]

The WCCAC consists of ten (10) members, appointed by the Mayor with advice/consent of City Council [Sec. 2-436].

- Member terms are four (4) years [Sec. 2-437]
- Voting Members: Nine (9) of the members shall have interest/expertise in the function of the Commission
- Non-voting Members: One (1) of the members shall be ex-officio
- Chair: appointed by Mayor on or before June 1 of each year

Projects

- Community Art Banners (since 2009)
- Artéculture (since 2014)
- The Butterfly Effect (2019)
- Haiku 2020
- Facilitation and Development of Permanent Public Art Collection: In this – together, Signa Rotae, Love Even More, Juan Chawuk Mural

Public Art Master Plan

Work continues on the West Chicago Cultural Arts Commission Public Art Master Plan. The Commission believes the addition of displays of public art throughout the community greatly enhances the quality of life for all who live, work and visit it by adding beauty and creating a distinctive identity. Key elements of the Master Plan include:

- Public Art Inventory
- Artist Registry
- Benefits of Public Art
- Future Projects

Current Members

Uwe Gsedl
Anni Holm
Judith Horsley
Heidi Kuharich
Sara Phalen
Buddy Plumlee, Vice Chairman
Stephanie Ross
Deborah Walsh
Lew Achenbach, ex-officio
Rosemary Mackey, City Liaison